

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 4.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending April 23, 2000**. Spring planting in some parts of the state is still delayed by wet fields. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 6 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 24 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1999	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	90	81	86	86	1	6	33	49	11
	Emerged	77	68	57	52					
Cotton	Planted	5	0	7	8	--	--	--	--	--
Rice	Planted	20	3	52	58	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	0	0	12	21					
Sorghum	Planted	35	25*	27	40	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	15	--	10	20					
Soybeans	Planted	10	2	16	17	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	1	--	3	4					
Wheat	Heading	95	87	85	64	0	3	17	57	23
Watermelons	Planted	48	47	58	55	--	--	--	--	--
Blueberries						1	5	32	58	4
Cattle						1	4	17	68	10
Pasture						1	5	21	60	13

*Revised from last week's estimate.

County Agent Comments

"Farmers were able to get a lot of field work done last week. We need more dry weather so we can continue planting our crops."

— Don Respass, Bolivar County

"Producers are eager to get back in the fields to resume planting corn and to start planting cotton, soybeans and milo. The wheat crop and pastures are looking very good. Wet weather has increased disease problems in wheat and oats."

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss County

"By mid-week most farmers were busy with several types of field work. Among them were fertilization, tillage work, and planting. Most farmers completed corn planting with some acreage of milo, soybean, rice and cotton also being planted. The rain Sunday will delay the start of field work this week."

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore County

"Rain this past weekend has stopped all pasture and field work. Corn that has emerged is looking good with the showers supplying needed moisture for adequate growth. Pastures are looking great with the recent rain."

— Houston Therrell, Rankin County

"It is finally dry enough to start field operations again. Corn planting is finishing up and soybean planting has begun. There will be some cotton in the ground by Wednesday."

—Steve Winters, Grenada County

"Finally, it has gotten dry enough to plant the rest of our corn. Some milo and soybeans have been planted. Cotton planting will start next week."

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower County

Weather Summary from April 17, 2000 to April 23, 2000 for Mississippi													
District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	Evap
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	86	49	65	64	+1	0.05	-1.06	1	6.18	72	59	66	0.22
Cleveland						0.00		0	7.58				
Tunica	86	49	65	64	+1	0.11	-1.22	1	5.54	83	55	68	
Extreme/Average	86	49	65	64	+1	0.05	-1.17	1	6.43	83	55	67	0.22
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	85	40	64	61	+3	0.00	-1.19	0	3.82	73	60	66	0.22
Memphis	85	45	64	64	0	0.35	-0.91	1	4.41				
Oxford	87	39	63	62	+1	0.00	-1.19	0	6.42				
Extreme/Average	87	39	64	63	+1	0.12	-1.14	0	4.88	73	60	66	0.22
3. Northeast													
Booneville	82	41	59	62	-3	0.12	-1.12	1	5.87				
Corinth	84	37	62	63	-1	0.08	-1.13	1	5.38				
Iuka	83	33	56			0.15		2	8.05				
Pontotoc	82	41	61	63	-2	0.00	-1.26	0	9.24	82	56	67	0.18
Tupelo	83	41	62	64	-2	0.35	-0.84	2	7.62				
Verona	83	42	64			0.00		0	10.66	75	55	65	0.24
Extreme/Average	84	33	61	63	-2	0.12	-1.14	1	7.80	82	55	66	0.20
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	90	46	69	66	+3	0.00	-1.19	0	10.85	90	67	79	
Greenwood	86	44	64	65	-1	0.46	-0.69	1	10.55				
Rolling Fork	88	47	68	66	+2	0.00	-1.05	0	7.95	91	69	76	0.24
Stoneville	87	48	67	66	+1	1.68	+0.5	2	12.62	82	59	70	0.26
Yazoo City	88	47	65	67	-2	0.00	-1.19	0	11.74				
Extreme/Average	90	44	67	66	+1	0.43	-0.76	1	10.74	91	59	75	0.25
5. Central													
Carthage		41		65		0.02	-1.24	1	8.69				
Jackson	86	45	65	66	-1	0.33	-0.94	1	8.31				
Winona	84	37	60	62	-2	0.06	-1.15	1	12.14				
Extreme/Average	86	37	62	65	-3	0.14	-1.12	1	9.71				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville						0.00	-1.38	0	3.66				
Columbus	84	43	62			0.22		1	8.04				
State University	84	42	63	65	-2	0.03	-1.28	1	9.38	73	57	67	0.19
Extreme/Average	84	42	62	65	-3	0.08	-1.25	1	7.03	73	57	67	0.19
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	88	48	67			0.00		0	5.32	87	62	79	
Natchez	85	45	68	68	0	0.02	-1.24	1	9.25				
Oakley	88	49	68	66	+2	0.00	-1.19	0	9.07	89	63	71	
Vicksburg	85	49	68			0.00		0	9.51				
Extreme/Average	88	45	68	67	+1	0.01	-1.22	0	8.29	89	62	75	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	86	47	68	68	0	0.00	-1.26	0	6.22				
McComb	85	45	68	67	+1	0.68	-0.58	1	5.03				
Extreme/Average	86	45	68	67	+1	0.34	-0.92	1	5.63				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						0.00		0	5.08				
Hattiesburg	90	46	70	68	+2	0.00	-1.06	0	3.25				
Laurel	87	46	66	67	-1	0.01	-1.11	1	3.40				
Meridian	86	41	65	65	0	0.12	-1.11	1	4.48				
Newton	87	42	64	65	-1	0.00	-1.24	0	5.25	66	55	59	0.18
Extreme/Average	90	41	66	66	0	0.03	-1.16	1	4.10	66	55	59	0.18
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	87	46	69			0.00		0	1.94				
Biloxi AFB	88	54	72			0.00		0	1.89				
Gulfport	85	51	71	70	+1	0.00	-1.12	0	1.56				
Pascagoula				69		0.00	-0.98	0	1.31				
Poplarville	88	49	69	68	+1	0.00	-1.13	0	2.28	90	63	76	0.26
Extreme/Average	88	46	70	69	+1	0.00	-1.05	0	1.80	90	63	76	0.26
State	90	33	65	66	-1	0.13	-1.10	1	6.78	91	55	68	0.23

DFN = Departure from Normal.

'E' = Estimated Values.